S L E A F O R D U R B A N D I S T R I C T
C O U N C I L

A N N U A L R E P O R T
OF THE
M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H
AND
P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R
FOR THE
YEAR
1 9 6 0

SLEAFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor E. A. Smeeton (Chairman of the Council)

Councillor G. Dawson (Chairman of the Committee)

Councillor N. H. Emmence

Councillor L. Kidd

Councillor F. Navesey

Councillor W. Rudkin

Councillor L. T. C. Wilkinson

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

John W. Scholey, M.B.,Ch.B.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND HOUSING OFFICER

T. E. Dagwell, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

HOUSING OFFICER'S ASSISTANT

A. V. Barraclough

Certificate of the Institute of Housing

GENERAL ASSISTANT

W. B. Williamson

CLERK

Miss W. Carr

25, Westgate,

Sleaford,

Lincs.

19th December, 1961.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the annual report for the year 1960.

It can be seen from the statistics provided that the health of the population of Sleaford has continued to be satisfactory, there being a total of only nineteen cases of infectious diseases notified during the year. No new case of tuberculosis was notified during 1960 and only one death was caused by this disease. It has been stated that the general health of a community can be judged by the tuberculosis notification and death rates and I feel that Sleaford has every reason to be satisfied in this respect. The comparatively large amount of new housing provided by the local authority must also have contributed in quite a large measure to the elimination of tuberculosis.

The statistics for births and deaths approximate fairly closely to those of the national average. The infant mortality rate is slightly below that of the previous year. However it can be seen that a large increase in the infant mortality rate could be brought about by an increase of only one or two infant deaths. It can be assumed and indeed can be proved by mathmatical experts that such variations are likely to be due to chance alone and are not of great statistical significance.

The poliomyelitis vaccination programme continued during the year and on the whole the response has been good. The scheme was extended to include persons of up to 40 years of age during the year but the response amongst this older age group was poor.

There is also room for a marked improvement in the number of children being immunised against diphtheria.

In spite of local demand for a general hospital I think it is unlikely that one will ever be built at Sleaford in the foreseeable future. It is felt that the huge costs of building a hospital, fitting it with expensive technical equipment and staffing it with doctors and nurses far outweigh the local need, taking into account the excellent hospitals at Lincoln, Grantham and Boston and the fact that modern radio equipped ambulances can cover these distances in very short times.

Although an annual report is useful in taking stock of the work performed by a Health Department during a year, it is not the figures and statistics themselves which count, but the quality of the work and effort of a great many different persons constantly going on quietly from day to day. What may appear as a simple visit or inspection on a report may in fact have entailed many hours of explanation or persuasion.

In presenting this report I would point out that I was not actually present on the scene for the year which it covers and therefore events and incidents are not highlighted in ones mind as personal experience.

In conclusion I would take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman, members of the Council, and the other officers for their help and co-operation.

E. I. Blenkinsop,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in acres	4,549
Population - 1951 Census	7,680
- Registrar General's Estimate 30/6/60	7,440
Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Book	2,409
Number of new houses completed during the year	14
Rateable value as at 1st October, 1960	£104,699
Sum represented by a penny rate	£408

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS		Male	Female	Total
Live Births	Legitimate	58	50	108
	Illegitimate	1	1	2
	Totals	59	51	110
Still Births	Legitimate	-	1	1
	Illegitimate	1	-	1
		1	1	2

Birth Rates	1959	1960
Birth Rate (Crude) per 1,000 of the estimated population	15.99	14.78
Birth Rate (Corrected) per 1,000 of the estimated population	16.31	15.07
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (England and Wales)	16.5	17.1
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	24.59	17.86
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births (England and Wales)	20.7	19.7

DEATHS	Male	Female	Total
Number of Deaths	60	59	119

Death Rate (Crude) per 1,000 of the estimated population	16.93	15.99
Death Rate (Corrected) per 1,000 of the estimated population	11.17	10.09
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (England and Wales)	11.6	11.5

Deaths of Infants under 1 year	Male	Female	Total
Number of Deaths - Legitimate	1	1	2
- Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	1	1	2

	1959	1960
Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births	18.35	18.18
Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births (England and Wales)	22.0	21.7

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Male	Female	Total
Respiratory Tuberculosis	1	-	1
Other Tuberculosis	-	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	1	-	1
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	3	5
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	-	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	2	6
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	1	-	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	7	14	21
Coronary disease, angina	11	7	18
Hyper-tension with heart disease	2	2	4
Other heart disease	5	9	14
Other circulatory disease	3	4	7
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	3	3	6
Bronchitis	-	-	-
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	2	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
Hyper-plasia of prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	3	-	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	8	15
Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2
All other accidents	1	2	3
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
T O T A L	55	58	113

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

The Kesteven County Council through the Public Health Department operates the health services under Part II of the National Health Services Act, 1946. Services provided include ante and post-natal care together with a midwife service, health visiting and home nursing, a domestic health service and the ambulance service. The Kesteven County Council operates a clinic at Riversdale House, Westgate, which provides for the majority of the local facilities.

Hospital Services.

General hospitals are now provided at Lincoln, Grantham and Boston with facilities for maternity needs at Sleaford, Lincoln and Grantham.

Laboratory Facilities.

Use is made by the department and local practitioners of the services provided by the Public Health Laboratory at Lincoln. Water samples are sent to the Public Analyst, Mr. W. Taylor, 16, Hamilton Road, Sherwood, Nottingham, when both bacteriological and chemical examinations are required.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year 16 cases of infectious diseases were notified:

Measles	5
Pneumonia	2
Erysipelas	1
Scarlet Fever	6
Puerpural Pyrexia	2

Food Poisoning.

Three cases of food poisoning were notified in 1960.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1941 to 1947.

No action was considered necessary under the provisions of this Act.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

1960

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my thirteenth Annual Report on the Environmental Health Services of the Urban District for the year ending 31st December, 1960.

Unfit housing once again was the major public health function of the Department. A small number of new orders were made and orders made in the previous year came into effect; the work of rehousing tenants from the affected houses being completed during the year. Since it appeared that there would be no likelihood of a succession of houses for rehousing the occupants of cleared houses there has been inevitably a period of standstill in the work of slum clearance. A number of factors have given rise to this situation. It does, however, seem regretable that continuity of the slum clearance programme cannot be maintained.

I have in past years drawn attention to the small number of privately erected houses within the Urban District and I must again pinpoint this disturbing feature of the pattern of housing in Sleaford. The lack of freely available houses is emphasized by the number of applications on the Council's list of housing applicants who would quite clearly purchase private houses if these were readily available. A feature of the housing list is the number of adequately housed families living outside the Urban District whose work and education brings them daily to Sleaford. Consideration must be given, I feel, to satisfy the needs of these families. A further disturbing feature of the pattern of housing is that people who, unable to satisfy their needs within the Urban District are finding accommodation elsewhere, in many instances, at considerable distances from their place of work.

I would thank the Council for their continued support and my fellow Officers in particular those of my own department for their assistance and co-operation during the year.

T. E. Dagwell,

Public Health Inspector
Housing Officer

H O U S I N G

COUNCIL HOUSING

The last house on the Boston Road Estate became available for letting during September of this year. The fact that rents of these houses were higher than the general pattern of those of previous Council houses did give rise to the need for a certain amount of shuffling existing Council house tenants to make available houses at lower rents, particularly for people who were displaced from unfit houses. Some fearswere expressed that there would be difficulty in letting the Boston Road Estate houses at the apparent high rents, but in fact, no difficulty was experienced. One can imagine, however, that any appreciable increase in the rents of newly erected houses could present some difficulty in that those most in need could be prejudiced by their inability to pay the rents of the houses available. 68 houses on Boston Road became available for letting during the year together with 24 other casual vacancies on existing estates. As a result 57 families from unfit houses were rehoused and 35 from the general list were dealt with.

Following the completion of the improvement of the Manor Place Estate kitchens, I am pleased to record that the Council approved the continuance of an improvement programme. It was decided to carry out complete modernisation of kitchens and bathrooms of the three bedroomed houses on the Newfield Road Estate. The work proposed provided for a hot water system, provision of a lavatory basin with the abolition of the obsolete brick coppers previously the source of hot water, plastering the kitchens and bathrooms and generally bringing the houses up to as near the present day standards as was practicable. Part of this work was eligible for standard grant and the approval of the Ministry was received during the year. Work on the houses commenced in September and by the end of the year 5 houses had been improved. It was hoped in a full year to achieve 18 improved houses. This is work which when carried out is appreciated by the tenants, gives them very good value for the comparatively small increase in rent and goes a long way towards making the older Council estates more desirable.

General maintenance of the Council houses continued to be carried out by direct labour and the system continues to work extremely well. The flexibility of Council controlled labour undoubtedly has great advantages. I feel confident that the use of direct labour has made it possible to carry out the maximum maintenance at the minimum cost. Unfortunately housing maintenance costs continued to rise both as a result of wage increases and material costs and it has been continually difficult to satisfy tenants expectations within the budget provided for by Housing Repairs Fund Contributions. Nevertheless within the limits of the money available I feel that the Council should be satisfied with the standard of maintenance which is being acheived.

UNFIT HOUSING

Sufficient new clearance and demolition orders were made during the year to cover the allocation of new houses on the Boston Road Estate which the Council had provided for. It is regrettable that it will be impossible to carry on the succession of orders necessary to produce a flow of tenants for newly provided houses since by the end of 1960 no very far advanced proposals were in hand for continuing new building. The Council did, however, envisage a continuation of the Boston Road Estate and the initial steps were taken to put this into effect.

By the end of December the following action under the Housing Act had been taken:-

(a) Sleaford Urban District (Carre Street No. 1) Clearance Order, 1959

This Order involving 3 houses was made by the Council on the 4th November, 1959 and was confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government on the 11th January, 1960.

(b) Sleaford Urban District (Gladstone's Yard) Clearance Order, 1959

This Order involving 9 houses was made by the Council on the 10th August, 1959 and was confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government on the 4th February, 1960.

(c) Sleaford Urban District (Westgate No. 3) Clearance Order, 1959;

This Order involving 5 houses was made by the Council on the 2nd December, 1959 and confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government on the 25th February, 1960.

(d) Sleaford Urban District (Northgate) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1960.

This Order was made on the 6th January, 1960 and was confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government on the 25th April, 1960. Subsequent to the making of this Order and its submission to the Ministry on notice of motion by several members of the Council the question of the making of the order was re-opened. Consideration was given to the exclusion of numbers 8 and 9, Church Lane from the Order on the ground of hardship which was likely to be caused to the aged occupants of the houses. A resolution of the Council that these two houses be excluded from the order already submitted was made and in confirming the order the Minister excluded both houses.

I feel that this action by the Council cannot pass without comment. Clearly in making the order originally the Council were presumably satisfied that all the houses in the area were unfit and therefore took the action imposed upon them by the Housing Act. The passing of the later resolution one month only after making such an order supports an implication that the houses in question were in fact, fit since logically the houses must be considered on grounds of fitness only. Subsequent events proved the doubtful wisdom of the Council's resolution since before the order was confirmed by the Minister the surviving tenant was already making requests that she be rehoused at the same time as tenants affected by the order. No one appreciates better than your Officers the personal feelings of tenants who have for a life time lived in a house, now worn out, when the question of clearance arises. The re-action of elderly people, in some cases rehoused under pressure from unfit houses now in the Council's bungalows is sufficient evidence to show that occasions do arise when decisions of the Council must be forced upon tenants in their own interests. Surely under no circumstances should anyone be permitted to live in an unfit house for longer than is essential.

(e) Sleaford Urban District (Martin's Court) Clearance Order, 1960.

This Order was made by the Council on the 6th April, 1960, and involved eight houses.

An objection was lodged by the owner of number 10/11 on the grounds that the house was not unfit.

A Hearing was held by the Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government on the 27th July, 1960.

The owner submitted proposals for extensive improvement and repair works. These were, however not acceptable to the Council and this point was made at the Hearing.

The Order was subsequently confirmed without modification by the Minister of Housing and Local Government on the 13th September, 1960.

INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSING

(f) Cogglesford Mill Cottage

The owner of this cottage made no proposals with regard to its future, a closing order was therefore made on the 29th February, 1960.

(g) 6, 7, 7a, Quarrington

The owner of these houses made no proposals with regard to their future, demolition orders were therefore made on the 29th February, 1960.

(h) 1, 2, Mason's Yard

The owner of these houses made no proposals with regard to their future, demolition orders were therefore made on the 19th August, 1960.

(i) 29, 31, West Banks

The owner of these two houses made no proposals with regard to their future, demolition orders were therefore made on the 19th August, 1960.

(j) 39, West Banks

Notice of Time and Place was served upon the owner of this house since the house was considered not to be repairable at a reasonable expense. The owner subsequently gave an undertaking not to re-let until such time as the house was put into a satisfactory state of repair and submitted certain proposals which were, however not acceptable to the Council. After discussions with the owner's representatives a scheme satisfactory to the Council was accepted, the works to be completed within six months.

(k) 2, 3, 4, 5, Reform Place

The owners of these houses previously gave undertakings to make two houses into one. The work of re-construction and re-conditioning was carried out during the year.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

During the year 16 applications were made for Discretionary grants, all of which were approved. Most of the work in connection with these applications had not been completed by the end of the year and payments had been made in respect of 8 only by the 31st December, 1960.

7 Standard grants were applied for and approved and payment had been made in respect of 4 by the end of the year.

These figures show an increase in the number of applications, several of which were in respect of tenanted property. They were however all from one Estate and it seems regrettable that the majority of applications do, in fact, come from owner occupiers. One would like to see more tenanted houses being improved.

Discretionary grants approved 1960	- 16	- value £5,609
Discretionary grants paid 1960	- 8	- value £1,329 10s.
Standard grants approved 1960	- 7	-
Standard grants paid 1960	- 4	- value £358 8s. 4d.

HOUSING STATISTICS

Inspections of dwelling-houses during the year.

(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	127
Number of inspections made for the purpose	151
(b) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-heading (a) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	39
(c) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	27
(d) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-headings) found not to be in all respects, reasonably fit for habitation.	31

Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their Officers	27

Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10, and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957	NIL
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	NIL
Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices	
(i) By owners	NIL
(ii) By local authority in default of owners	NIL
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts	
(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	NIL
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices	NIL
(a) By owners	NIL
(b) By local authority in default of owners	NIL
(c) Proceedings under Sections 17 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957	
(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	7
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	7

(d) Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957

(i)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	4
(ii)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit	NIL

(e) Proceedings under Sections 42 and 43 of the Housing Act, 1957

(i)	Number of Clearance Orders made	4
(ii)	Number of Compulsory Purchase Orders made	1
(iii)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance thereof	33

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Public Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection.

The Council maintained two slaughterhouses as public slaughterhouses. I am pleased to record that once again 100 per cent meat inspection was carried out in spite of the fact that a large proportion of the inspection needed to be carried out after office hours. One feels that with some re-organisation in the pattern of butchers' purchasing there would, in fact, be little need for late night slaughtering.

The throughput remained much about the same as last year, there being a decrease in the number of sheep and lambs but an increase in the number of pigs. The percentage of cattle affected by Tuberculosis was again largely reduced and for the first time in cattle the figure dropped below one per cent. This figure compared with 20.13 per cent in 1949 shows the value of the work carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in this field. There was a small increase in the cattle affected by cysticercosis but in every case the cysts found were in a degenerated condition and it was considered unnecessary to submit any carcase for refrigeration.

I reported in the 1959 Annual Report on the conditions that existed in the two slaughterhouses and to the extent by which they fell short of the requirements of the regulations. The Council initially were of the opinion that the best method of dealing with the situation was the erection of a new slaughterhouse and clearly if this be a practicable and economic proposition, this should be the method of dealing with the problem. Unfortunately during the year there appeared to be every indication that the throughput of the slaughterhouse would tend to decrease rather than increase during the next few years. It seemed apparent that no guarantee could be given by the butchering trade as to its future needs and the pattern of trade beyond 10 to 15 years seemed difficult to visualise. Economically it began to appear that the provision of a new slaughterhouse at an estimated cost of some £10,000 was a doubtful proposition. The situation was not resolved at the end of the year but the indications were that some scheme which involved modernisation of the existing slaughterhouse would have to be found acceptable.

The principal reasons for condemnation of the meat referred to above follow:-

BEASTS		
1 Beast and all organs	Septic Peritonitis	634
Beef and beast organs	Various conditions and diseases	2,232
CALVES		
1 Calf and all organs	Extensive bruising, serous infiltration and septic injury	150
Veal and calf organs	Various conditions and diseases	9
SHEEP		
1 Lamb and all organs	Haemorrhagic - Oedema	49
1 Ewe and all organs	Emaciation	49
1 Ewe and all organs	Septic Pneumonia	80
1 Sheep and all organs	Oedema	50
1 Ewe and all organs	Moribund, Pregnancy Toxaemia	91
1 Ewe and all organs	Fevered, Ill bled, Pregnancy Toxaemia	61
1 Sheep and all organs	Moribund, Ill bled	71
Mutton and Sheep organs	Various conditions and diseases	139
PIGS		
1 Pig and all organs	Swine Erysipelas	334
1 Pig and all organs	Fevered and Moribund	270
1 Pig and all organs	Enteritis and Fevered	124
1 Pig and all organs	Chronic Pneumonia and Emaciation	78
3 Pigs and all organs	Generalised Tuberculosis	401
1 Sow and all organs	Moribund, Fevered and Swine Erysipelas	210
1 Pig and all organs	Jaundice	74
Pork	Multiple Abscesses, Contamination and Bruising	108
Pork and pig organs	Various conditions and diseases	1,719

1960	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	730	9	2,039	2,150
All diseases except Tuberculosis Whole carcases condemned	1	1	7	6
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	135	2	29	197
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	18.63	33.33	1.77	9.44
Tuberculosis only Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	-	-	61
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	0.82	-	-	2.98
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	15	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-
Percentage of beasts inspected affected with Cysticercosis	2.01	-	-	-

Other Foods.

The following premises are registered in accordance with section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

The manufacture of sausage, etc.	10
The manufacture, sale and storage of ice-cream	2
Storage and sale only of ice-cream	22

Food premises are classified as under:-

Grocers	19
Public Houses	15
Butchers	12
Bakers and Confectioners	7
School Canteens	5
Slaughterhouses	2
General Stores	4
Fish and Chip Shops	5
Fishmongers	2
Catering Premises	7
Hotels	4
Confectioners	4
Green Grocers	8
Egg Packers	1
	95

Milk Supply.

The following were registered in the district at 1st January, 1960:-

Distributors	9

Dealer's licences issued in respect of designated milk at 1st January, 1960 were:-

Tuberculin Tested	2
Pasteurised	2
Sterilised	9

Samples of milk and cream taken have in all cases proved satisfactory.

Ice-cream.

There remained two manufacturers of ice cream, one hot mix and the other cold mix. Both were inspected during the year and found to be satisfactory. Their production is seasonal.

There are 22 premises registered for the storage and sale of ice cream only. One premises was registered during the year.

Other Foods Condemned.

The undermentioned foods, other than fresh meat, have been examined and found to be unfit for food:-

44 tins Fruit and Vegetables	Decomposition and Blown
9 tins Meat	Blown
8 tins Rice	Blown
48½ lbs Sweets)	
108 miscellaneous Sweets)	
104 Ices and Lollies)..	Damaged by Fire
31 Cakes and Bread)	
2 ½ lb Kraft Cheese)	

Other foods are disposed of by burying in the Council's refuse tip after mutilation. Amounts of such food are usually quite small. In certain cases, where food is condemned at institutions destruction is by burning.

WATER SUPPLY

There were no extensions to the main supplies during the year.

Agreement between the constituent members of the Kesteven Water Board was reached towards the end of the year with regard to the Draft Water Board Order.

The supply has continued to be adequate and of good quality. Sample analyses have been satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

No additions to the sewerage system or to the disposal works have been constructed during the year. Some initial trouble was experienced with the new detritus channels in the balancing tank but this difficulty has now been overcome. The Council considered several unsatisfactory features of the town sewerage and sewage disposal and in particular instructed their consultants to submit a report on flood relief coupled with the satisfactory discharge of storm overflows. The consultants were further instructed to report on and prepare a scheme for a new Quarrington sewerage system.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

No changes have taken place in the refuse disposal services which are controlled by the Surveyor. Generally throughout most of the district a weekly collection has been satisfactorily maintained from premises within the Urban District.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

A further licenced residential site has been provided adjoining Carlight Trailer's factory premises in Church Lane. The standard of amenity which it was possible to persuade the licensee to provide makes this an excellent site with standards above average. Facilities were provided for twenty-four vans.

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 came into force towards the end of the year and this required licensees of existing sites to apply for new licences and new planning permissions within two months of the passing of the Act. The opportunity was taken in considering the new licence for the Claremont Caravan Site to persuade the owner to increase the standards. At the same time a proposal to increase the number of vans on the site was considered, a supplementary application for an increased site area having been approved in principle. The area at this site which is set aside for casual users has been used continuously throughout the summer and as a result there has been little evidence of use of unauthorised sites in the district.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council has continued to employ the Rodent Operator whose services are available full time as necessary. Since this work does tend to be seasonal he is engaged on other work in the Department. Nevertheless his first function is that of Rodent Control and this takes priority over all other work. The Department is able to give attention usually on the day of complaint, certainly not normally in excess of twenty-four hours, I think that the continuance of this policy has paid dividends. There appears to be a record of an increase in the incidence of rats in Lincolnshire but there seems little to support any suggestion that there has been an increase within the limits of the Urban District.

The Rodent Operator carries out an efficient job and he is very well known to the general public with whom he is in daily contact. The advantage of this is that many complaints are readily made to him personally, avoiding the necessity for contacting the office. No major infestations were found during the year.

The usual treatment of the sewers was also carried out, the main areas of infestation as usual being in the Westgate area.

Details of the work carried out by the Rodent Operator for the twelve months ending 31st March, 1960 are as follows:-

			1960/61
Total number of inspections			1682
Infestations found	Rats -	Major Infestations	1
		Minor Infestations	137
	Mice -	Major Infestations	0
		Minor Infestations	7
			1827
Number of treatments involved			206

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1949.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	20	6	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	78	51	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises	-	-	-	-
Total	98	57	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases where defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	4	4	-	-	-